THE ANSWER OF

The Burgesses and other Inhabitants of the Parish of

Buckingham,

To a late scandalous Pamphlet set forth by

Sir *TIMBER TEMPLE.*

ALthough we have been so extremely unfortunate, by our late Election of the Lord *Latimer* and Sir *Timber Temple* for our Burgesses this next Parliament, to disoblige not onely the honest Gentry of the Neighbourhood, but of the whole County of *Bucks*, as also the better part of the Kingdom; yet having seen a most false and scandalous Pamphlet, pretended to be written for our Justification by Sir *Timber Temple*, which impartially, we must confess, contains in it (and that notoriously known to thousands that were present at the County Election) as many falshoods as Sentences, and that the said foolish Pamphlet hath some malitious and insignificant Reflections upon an honest and well-deserving Gentleman of the Neighbourhood, *viz.* Sir *John Busby*, our constant and chiefest Benefactor; as also upon others that are, and have been our best friends: Therefore we think our selves obliged in Justice and Gratitude, to vindicate the Honour and spotless Reputation of that prudent and most worthy Gentleman, Sir *John Busby*, from those unjust reproaches he is most falsly charged withall by Sir *Timber Temple* in the said Pamphlet, alledging the said Sir *John Busby* to be a great incendiary amongst his Neighbours, and to be a professed Enemy to *Buckingham*; whereas we know, and must all confess, that the said Sir *John Busby* hath been for these many years (as it is said before) our chiefest Benefactor, a Gentleman and Friend, that hath always contrived and studied our welfare, that hath yearly at his Training nobly feasted us, that hath endeavoured to suppress the raging malice of our Enemies, and of those that sought and threatned our ruine and confusion; that hath most freely upon all occasions spent his Mo-

ney amongſt us, notwithſtanding his near Neighbourhood to *Winſlow*, ſtill labouring to bring Trade and Traffick to our Corporation; that hath always taken part with us when we had a good Cauſe, and chiefly to whoſe favour we owe the General Meetings of the Gentlemen at our Town, and to whom we have had conſtant Addreſs in all our neceſſities, misfortunes and difficulties, for advice and counſel, which he ever, with much diſcretion, gave us, to our certain advantage, if we had the luck to follow it: And we muſt here all candidly acknowledge, that if we had in due time taken his advice concerning the choice of our Burgeſſes to ſerve in Parliament, which was not onely in private, but publickly by him given to us all, we had not been ſo obnoxious to our Neighbours as we now are, nor diſtaſteful to the Kingdom; for the ſcorn, ſcourge, and reproach we now lie under he did then judiciouſly foreſee, and tell us, would aſſuredly be our doom, if we ſhould be ſo unadviſed to make choice of Sir *Timber Temple*; ſo that we cannot any longer excuſe our follies, which we now ſee and feel, to our own ſorrow and amazement; neither can we ſilently ſuffer this good Gentleman, our great Friend and beſt Neighbour, to be thus unworthily and injuriouſly traduc'd, a Perſon of that known Integrity, Judgment, and Induſtry, to ſerve his King and Country, that he is become the Favourite of all good men, and the fearful Dread of all kind debauched Perſons, and of all ſuch like Diſturbers of his Majeſties Peace. And this further we cannot but take notice of in his behalf, that what was intended by the detracting Libeller to diſgrace him, doth infinitely magnifie his Credit, ſince it appears, that the worſt of his Enemies, ſwell'd with prying envy and malice, after the ſtricteſt inquiry into his Life and Converſation, cannot in truth faſten upon him the leaſt imputation of guilt or unworthineſs. It is not the intent of this our Anſwer to make Reflections upon Sir *Timber Temple*, for that would ſtill more condemn our choice, which we do moſt heartily and humbly repent of, begging pardon of our Country-men for the ſame: But our chief aim is, hereby to vindicate our Friends from the falſe aſperſions of that ſcandalous Libel, which calumniates not onely the Living, but the Dead, and reproaches Mr. *John Dormer*, lately deceaſed, and that cannot ſpeak for himſelf, of the like offence, the Author of the ſaid Pamphlet hath ſo lately been guilty of, *viz.* Bribery; for elſe we muſt ingeniouſly confeſs, though to our own ſhame, ſince we acknowledge our fault and repentance, that Sir *Timble Temple* had never been choſen, or perhaps thought of, to ſerve for the Town of *Buckingham*, either in the laſt, or in this next Parliament, by reaſon he was ſo backwards in performing thoſe firſt engagements which he formerly made to us by many Vows and Proteſtations, when we choſe him Burgeſs of the late long Parliament, that he now inſolently denies that he ever made any ſuch promiſe; whereas the thing is ſo plain and apparent, that no man living, but himſelf, would deny ſuch a known truth, atteſted and confirmed by his name, Sir *Timber*, that ſhall eternally remain, in ſpight of Oaths and Perjury, to him and his poſterity for ever. As to that paſſage in the ſaid Pamphlet, relating to his Grace the Duke of *Buckingham*, who is ſaid, at the former Election, in a very ſtrange and extraordinary manner, to eſpouſe Sir *Peter Tyrrell*'s intereſt, we know not what Sir *Timber Temple* cavils at, unleſs he will be angry, that his Grace, and the reſt of the honeſt Gentry, then appearing for Sir *Peter Tyrrell*, did not think him worthy

worthy of that favour and countenance; and thereupon Sir *Timber Temple*, in his foaming diſpleaſure, will not allow his Grace the priviledge of a Commoner, becauſe he did not appear in his behalf; alledging, that the intermedling with Peers of the Realm in Elections made by the Commons, is very Illegal; and we wiſh he could ſay and prove, never before practiſed in other places, nor ſhould be for the future; though we muſt acknowledge it, as our greateſt crime and folly, that we did not hearken to that wiſe and grave Counſel his Grace was ſo favourably pleaſed to give us. And concerning that eminent and over-buſie Perſon the Pamphlet ſpeaks of, ſtill reflecting, in dark terms, upon his Grace the Duke of *Buckingham*, who is ſaid to ſtrike at the head of the High Sheriff's Son with a great Truncheon of Oak, and that miſſing his blow, the Truncheon bruſh'd upon the young Man's belly; all which is ſo notoriouſly falſe, that thouſands can witneſs, that the Duke of *Buckingham* was then at a diſtance, and ſcarce ever ſaw the Sheriffs Son that day; and we know of no other eminent Perſon that rode with a Truncheon in his hand; ſo that if there was any riotous Aſſembly that day that concern'd themſelves in our County Election, it was Sir *Timber Temple*'s own Party, being about eight or ten inconſiderable perſons, that were met together by Sir *Timber Temple*'s procurement and inſtigation, on purpoſe to give the honeſt Free-holders all the diſturbance they could in their free Election; for which purpoſe alſo the day before, Sir *Timber Temple* had cajoll'd the High Sheriff to adjourn his Court from *Alisbury* to *Buckingham*, which he did accordingly; intending alſo to adjourn from *Buckingham* to ſome other place, with a deſign ſtill to weary out the Free-holders: Sir *Timber Temple* alſo having over night at *Buckingham* cauſed a Drum to be beaten, a Company of Tatterdemalion Boys of our Town, headed by Juſtice *Riſely*, Sir *Timber Temple*'s wife Brother in Law, being gathered together, crying up, *A Chester and a Verney*. And we are certainly informed, that the proceedings of Sir *Timber Temple* in this Affair were ſo mean and ridiculous, and did ſo highly exaſperate the Free-holders that were met together to make a free and good Election, being about ten thouſand perſons, all of one mind, that if he had appeared amongſt them in the Field, the ſame School-boys fate of the High Sheriff's Son, would, without doubt, ſeverely have fall'n upon him, and he had been, according to his deſerts, Caned and Whipped out of the Field home to his Cuſtom houſe for his Boyiſh misdemeanors. But becauſe it is much wondered abroad, what was the end and deſign of Sir *Timber Temple*'s proceedings in this manner, contrary to the vogue of the whole County; we that were then his Confederates, and for whom he pretendedly acted, muſt give you this true account, that Sir *Timber Temple*'s chief deſign was, to heighten the charge of thoſe two worthy Gentlemen, Mr. *Wharton* and Mr. *Hampden*, that ſtood to be choſen for the County, being Gentlemen of another ſtamp, and of excellent Principles, quite different to Sir *Timber Temple*, that hoped thereby to cool their zeal for the Proteſtant Religion, and the good of their Countrey; and the rather, as he ſuppoſed, becauſe the ſaid two Gentlemen had been at a vaſt expence in Treating the Countrey at the former Election at *Alisbury*, where they paid for above ten thouſand Ordinaries. And his other great motive was, to complement us his Friends of *Buckingham*, at the general Charge of us the Free-holders of the County, which he thought would excuſe

cuſe him two or three Entertainments at his Cuſtom-houſe, beſides thoſe uſual Preſents his pregnant Lady made to our Wives and Daughters. But what is deceitfully ſuggeſted relating to the High Sheriffs honour, Sir *Timber Temple* had not the leaſt regard unto; and it is much to be admired, how they two could have any fair correſpondence one with another, for that Sir *Timber Temple*, by his implacable and vexatious Suits, tending to overthrow the ſaid High Sheriffs new Incloſures, hath lately cauſed him to expend in Law above five thouſand pounds. We hope that what we have here inſerted, in anſwer to that falſe, nonſenſical, and malitious Libel, will ſufficiently clear thoſe Gentlemen our good friends, whom Sir *Timber Temple* hath ſo much in vain laboured to reproach; and we do hereby ſolemnly proteſt, that if any thing of the like nature ſhall hereafter be attempted by Sir *Timber Temple*, or any of his malitious Complices, againſt us, or any of our friends, we ſhall particularly, without any falſe imputation, at large ſet forth and make known to the World (what we are here willing in ſome meaſure to conceal) *viz.* the villanous Practiſes, damnable Cheats, Briberies, Extortions, Perjuries, and Subornations of Perjuries, Treachery, Whoredoms, and depraved Nature of this abominable Satyriſt; for though he doth conceal from us thoſe execrable Crimes he hath ſo darkly committed, for which by Law he deſerves the Gallows; yet we can fully charge and prove againſt him, with addition, all the former wicked and deteſtable impieties. Finally, we do again hereby profeſs our great obligations to Sir *John Buſby*; and although our preſent Bailiff, Mr. *George Dancer*, as alſo *Henry Heyward* the Barber, two ſworn Confederates with Sir *Timber Temple*, we fear to the utter ruine of themſelves, and our unhappy Corporation, will not give us their ſubſcriptions to this Recognition, yet all the reſt of us, both Burgeſſes and Inhabitants, do moſt freely and unanimouſly make this our anſwer and acknowledgment, which we ſhall for ever ſign and own, in ſpight of Sir *Timber Temple* and his accurſed Complices.

Buckingham,
Septemb. 16.
1679.

135216